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(54) Title
PLURALITY OF PLANTER POTS JOINED BY CENTRAL TUBE WITH ROOT AERATING MEANS

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(56) Prior Art Documents
41585/78 A01G

(57) Claim

1. A plurality of planter pots each adapted to contain earth, each pot having a wall extending between an upper rim member and a base, openings in said wall through which plants rooted in the contained earth may grow the pots being adapted for nesting in rim to base configuration, said plurality being provided with tubular means whereby air passage is, in use, provided from an air space defined adjacent the rim, and within one of said pots to an air space contained adjacent the rim and within another of said pots.

FORM 1

REGULATION 9

LODGED AT SUB-OFFICE

12 AUG 1986
Sydney

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
PATENTS ACT 1952

APPLICATION FOR A STANDARD PATENT

I, STEPHEN LESLIE FRAKNOI,
of 6/47 Adderton Road, Telopea, New South Wales 2117, Australia

hereby apply for the grant of a Standard Patent for an
invention entitled:-

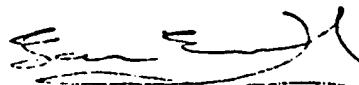
"PLANTER POTS"

which is described in the accompanying Complete Specification.

My address for service is: SHELSTON WATERS
55 Clarence Street
SYDNEY, N.S.W. 2000.

DATED this 12th August, 1986

STEPHEN LESLIE FRAKNOI

By 

Overseas Institute of Patent Attorneys of Australia
of SHELSTON WATERS

To: The Commissioner of Patents
WODEN. A.C.T. 2606

APPLICATION ACCEPTED AND AMENDMENTS

File:	PATENT OFFICE ACT. SUB-OFFICE D.B. 126E-XS - 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Fee:	\$135.00

ALLOWED 17 : 5 - 89

(NON-CONVENTION—One or More Persons)

FORM 7—REGULATION 12 (1)

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PATENTS ACT, 1952-1969

DECLARATION IN SUPPORT OF AN
APPLICATION FOR A PATENT

FEE STAMPS

(a) Here insert (in
full) Name of
Applicant(s).

In support of the Application made by (a)
STEPHEN LESLIE FRAKNOI

(b) Here insert Title
of Invention.

(b) "PLANTER POTS"

(c) Here insert (in
full) Name(s) and
Address(es) of Ac-
tual Inventor(s) if
other than Appli-
cant(s).

I/We, (c) Stephen Leslie FRAKNOI

of (c) 6/47 Adderton Road, TELopea, New South Wales 2117

do solemnly and sincerely declare as follows:

1. I am/W~~XX~~XX the Applicant(s) for the Patent.
2. I am/W~~XX~~XX the actual Inventor(s) of the invention (or, where a person other than the Inventor is the Applicant).

2. (d)

is/are

the actual Inventor(s) of the invention and the facts upon which I am/we are entitled to make the Application are as follows:

I am/We are the Assignee(s) of the said Inventor(s).

DECLARED at... Sydney, N.S.W
this... eleventh day of August 1986

(e) Signature(s) of
Applicant(s).

(e) *Stephen Leslie FRAKNOI*

To THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS.

SHELSTON WATERS
PATENT ATTORNEYS
55 CLARENCE STREET, SYDNEY

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

FORM 10

PATENTS ACT 1952

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

FOR OFFICE USE:

Application Number: 61133/86 Class Int. Class
Lodged:

Complete Specification Lodged:
Accepted:
Published:

This document contains the
amendments made under
Section 49 and is correct for
printing.

....Priority:

....Related Art:

....

.. Name of Applicant: STEPHEN LESLIE FRAKNOI

....

Address of Applicant: 6/47 ADDERTON ROAD
TELOPEA, NEW SOUTH WALES

Actual Inventor: STEPHEN LESLIE FRAKNOI

Address for Service: SHELSTON WATERS, 55 Clarence Street, Sydney

Complete Specification for the Invention entitled:

"PLANTER POT"

The following statement is a full description of this invention,
including the best method of performing it known to me/us:-

This invention relates to Planter Pots for holding earth for growing plants.

Pots have been used for centuries to hold dirt in which either indoor or outdoor plants are planted. Such pots have been made of clay, wood, metal, plastics and other materials and typically are upwardly open and provided with a small drain hole at the base. In some instances such pots have been provided with openings in the side in which herbs or strawberries may be planted.

10 In apartments the balcony space available for standing plants is limited and therefore window boxes cantilevered from walls and hanging pots have been used.

An object of the present invention is to provide an alternative which allows extensive planting possibilities in a limited floor area.

According to one aspect the invention consists in a plurality of planter pots each adapted to contain earth, each pot having a wall extending between an upper rim member and a base, openings in said wall through which plants rooted in the contained earth may grow the pots being adapted for nesting in rim to base configuration, said plurality being provided with tubular means whereby air passage is, in use, provided from an air space defined adjacent the rim, and within one of said pots to an air space contained adjacent the rim and within another of said pots.

In preferred embodiments each pot has one or more outwardly projecting pockets and the opening in the wall is an upwardly directed pocket opening. The pockets



communicate with a central chamber of the pot.

According to a second aspect, the invention consists in nested pots according to the first aspect, wherein the side wall openings of one pot are in staggered arrangement relative to the side wall openings of an underlying nested pot and wherein said pots are keyed to each other to ensure said staggered arrangement.

In the preferred embodiment the pots are made with
10 either two or three pockets protruding from the surface on one face of the pot while the other face of the pot has no pocket. This enables the pots to be conveniently stacked in a corner or against the wall without substantial loss of floor space.

There is also provided in another preferred embodiment a channel near the base of each pocket to permit the drainage of water from the pocket into the next lower pot. There can also be provided a plurality of lugs at the bottom of each pot to enable one pot to be locked
20 into engagement with the top of another pot when they are placed vertically in a column of pots. In addition, the tubular means comprises a pipe disposed through the center of each pot, with the pipe having a series of orifices at the level of the top of the earth in each pocket to provide an aeration system. Any overflow of drainage water, which has been found to be a common problem with home grown plant systems, is absorbed into the earth of the lower pots and any excess is caught in a base stand.

By way of example, an embodiment of the above described invention it describes hereinafter with reference to the accompanying drawings:



Figure 1 is a side elevation of a pot according to the invention.

Figure 2 is a plan view in partial cross section of a pot according to the invention.

Figure 3 is a plan view in partial cross section of another pot according to the invention.

Figure 4 is a elevation of a vertical stack of a plurality of pots according to the invention.

10 Figure 5 is a side view of the vertical column of pots according to the invention.

Figure 6 is a side view in cross section of a stand for a vertical column of pots according to the invention.

Figure 7 is a plan view of the stand of Figure 6.

Figure 8 is a side view of a pipe used in conjunction with a vertical column of pots according to the invention, and

Figure 9 is a plan view of a column of pots according to the invention.

With reference to Figure 1 of the drawings a pocket 3 is disposed below and outwardly from a circular rim 2. Said rim and each pocket is supported by a central cavity member 4, all of which is supported by a lower circular base 5. As shown in Figure 1 there is a channel 6 provided at the bottom of each pocket. The channels 6 provide drainage from each pocket so that after a plant has been watered and the water percolates through the soil, any excess collected in the bottom of the chamber member overflows through channel 6 into a pocket of a lower pot.

As shown in Figure 2, the pot can be made with two pockets, or as in Figure 3, three pockets protruding from the cavity member. This provides a pleasing display when the pots are sequentially arranged vertically with a pot having two pockets being on top of another having three pockets. In order to facilitate the vertical stacking, the pots are provided with lugs 7 which can be locked into the top of the rim member 2 of the pot immediately below. Such a vertical arrangement of a number of pots is shown in Figures 4 and 5.

20
In order to provide stability a pipe 8 can be passed through each cavity 4, central opening 9 in rim member 2 and the central opening in the base 5. At intervals along the pipe 8, orifices 11 are provided, as shown in Figure 8, to coincide with the space 10 in each pot to provide air for aeration purpose to the plant roots. A base 12 is shown in plan view in Figure 7 and has a central orifice 13 to hold the pipe 8, as well as a dished portion 14 to receive the drainage as it descends the pipe from the channels. Any drainage flows through orifices 15 in the base to the area 16 of the base from which it can evaporate or be removed by a sponge. As shown in Figure 7 the support base 12 has a flater and less curved side so that, as is shown in Figure 9, a vertical column of pots can be placed in a corner or against a wall in order to conserve floor space.

As will be familiar to those skilled in the plastics art, when made of plastics the moulds can make vertically split sections or horizontal sections as best suits the economics of production.

It will be apparent to those skilled in the art that the pot can take other forms and other configurations while carrying out the scope of the invention.

THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

1. A plurality of planter pots each adapted to contain earth, each pot having a wall extending between an upper rim member and a base, openings in said wall through which plants rooted in the contained earth may grow the pots being adapted for nesting in rim to base configuration, said plurality being provided with tubular means whereby air passage is, in use, provided from an air space defined adjacent the rim, and within one of said pots to an air space contained adjacent the rim and within another of said pots.
2. A plurality of planter pots according to claim 1 wherein the tubular means comprises a pipe disposed through the center of each pot, said pipe having orifices therein at the upper level of each pot to permit air flow to each said air space.
3. A plurality of nested planter pots as defined in Claim 1 or 2, wherein the wall openings of one pot are in staggered arrangement relative to the wall openings of an underlying nested pot and wherein said pots are keyed to each other to ensure said staggered arrangement.
4. A plurality of nested planter pots as defined in Claim 2 wherein a plurality of lugs extend from the bottom of said base for making engagement with the top of the rim member of another such pot.
5. A plurality of planter pots as defined in claim 1 wherein each pot has one or more projecting pockets and the opening in the wall is an upwardly directed pocket

opening, each pocket communicating with a central chamber of the pot.

6. A plurality of planter pots substantially as described herein with reference to Figure 2 or Figure 3 or the accompanying drawings.

DATED this 10th day of MAY, 1989

STEPHEN LESLIE FRAKNOI

Attorney: IAN T. ERNST

Fellow Institute of Patent Attorneys of Australia

of SHELSTON WATERS



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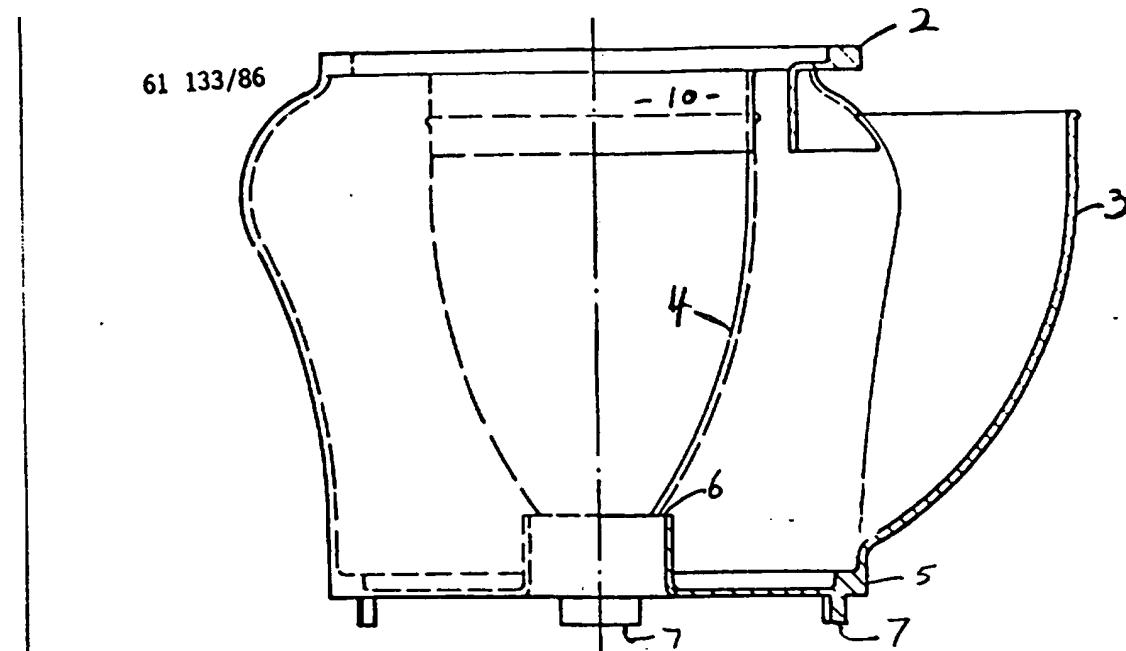


Fig. 1

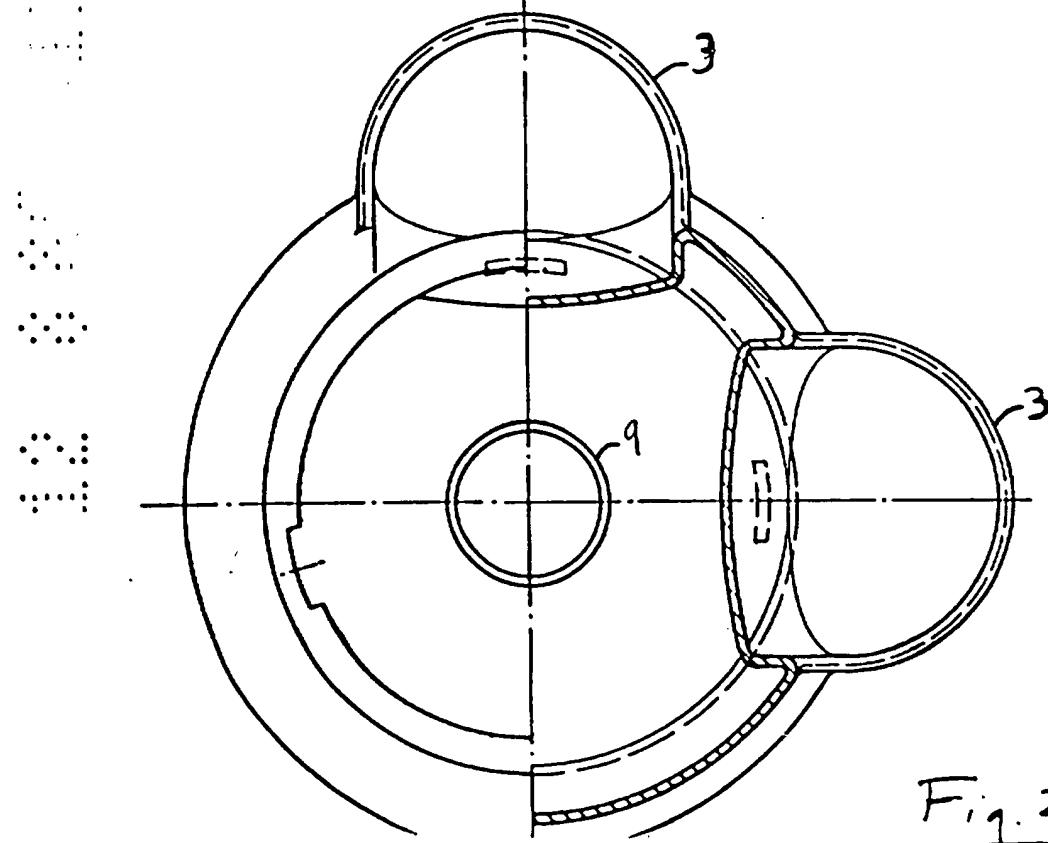


Fig. 2

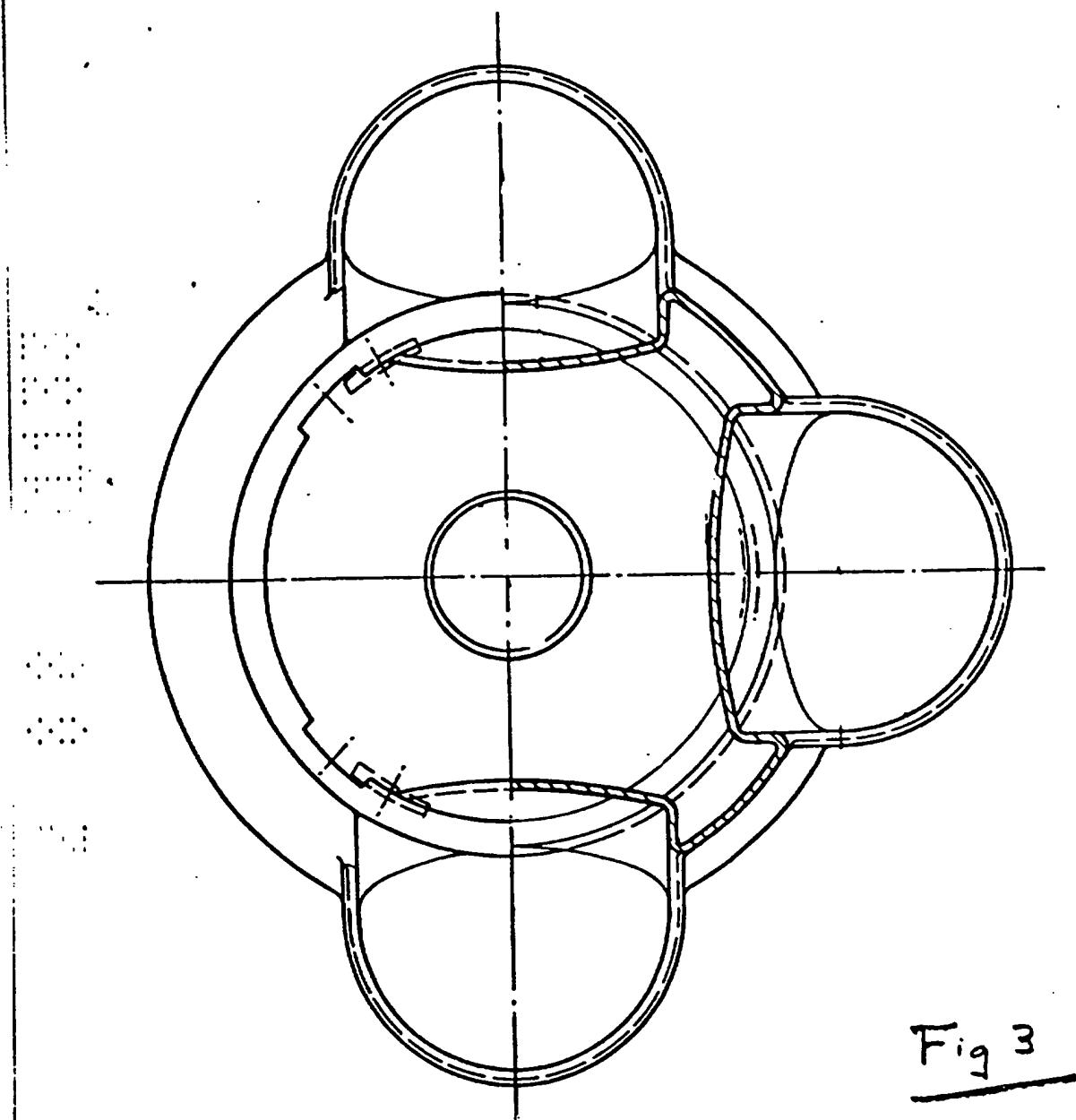


Fig 3

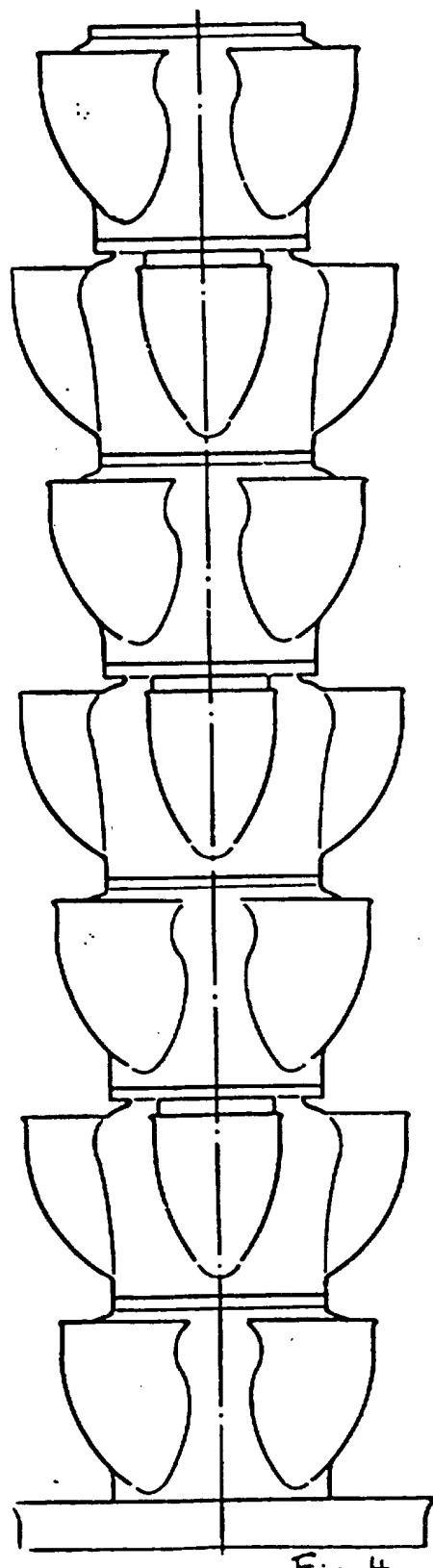


Fig. 4

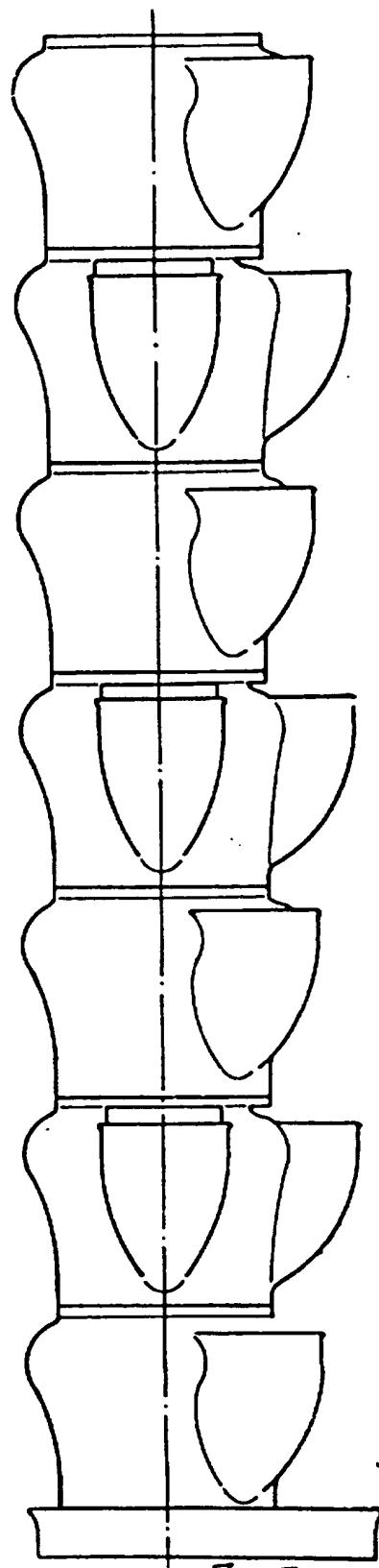
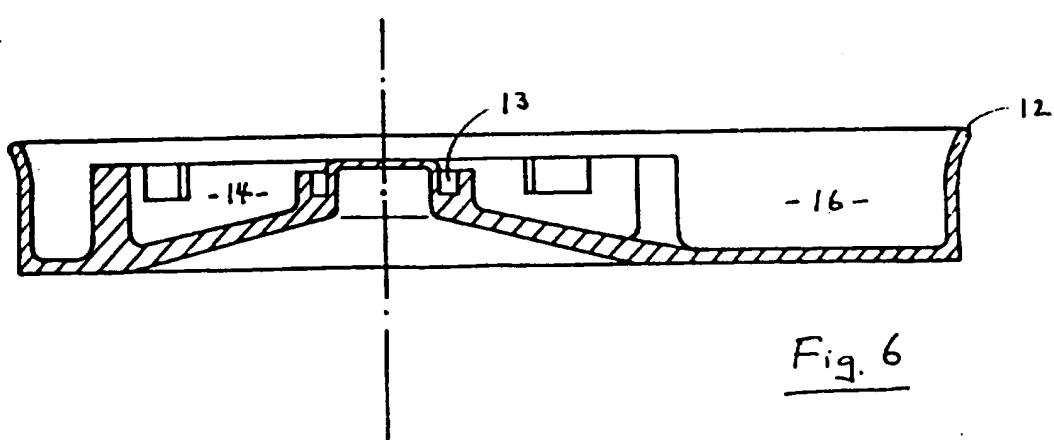
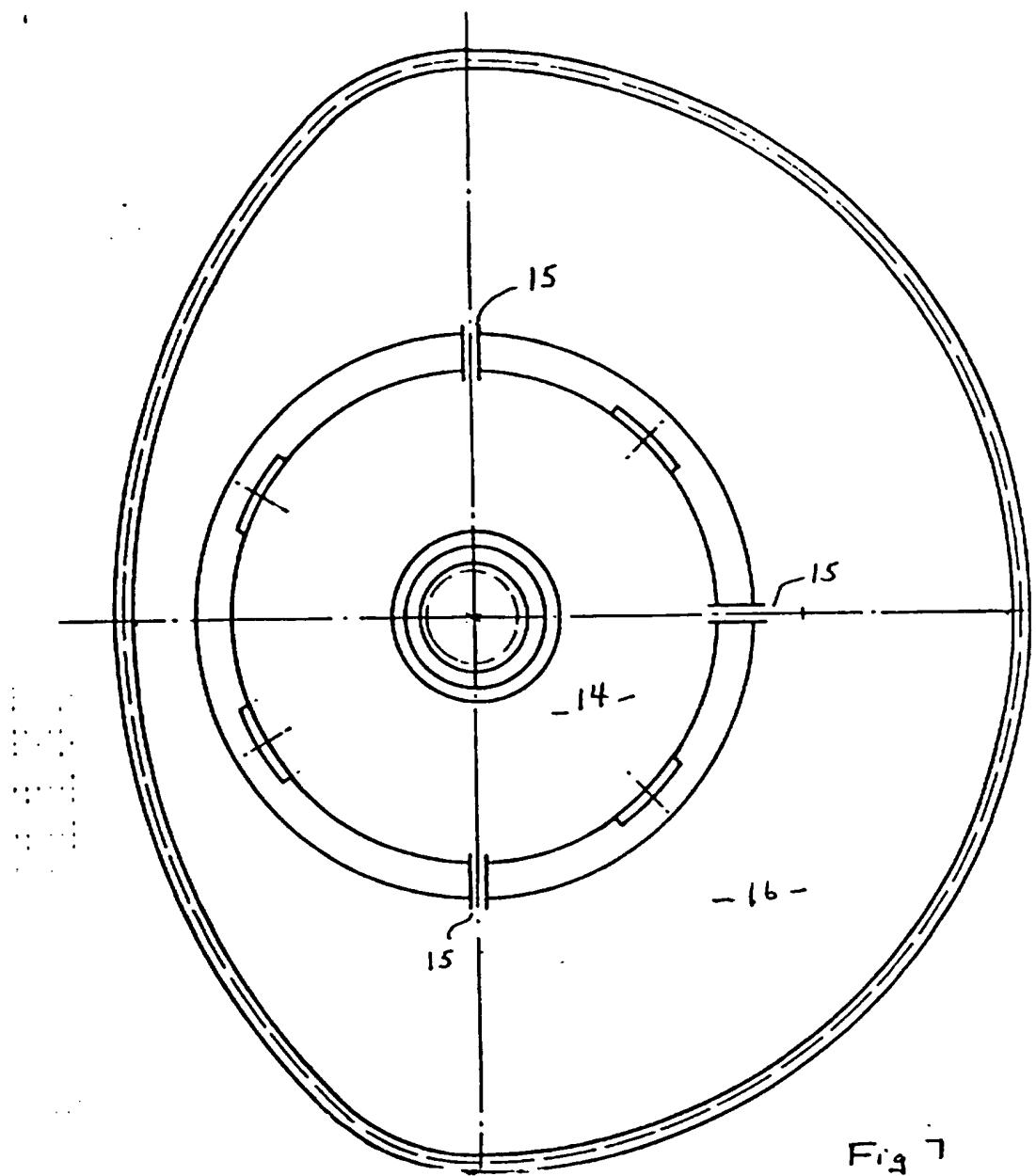


Fig. 5



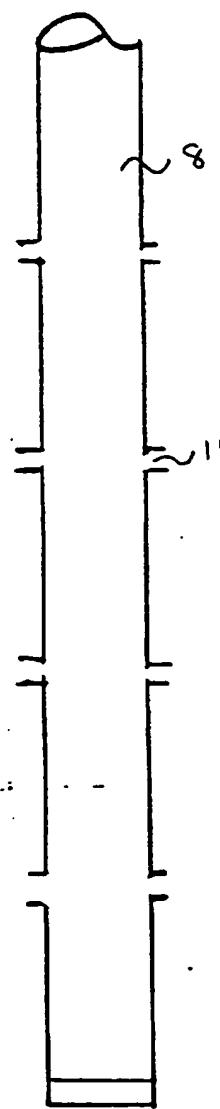


Fig. 8

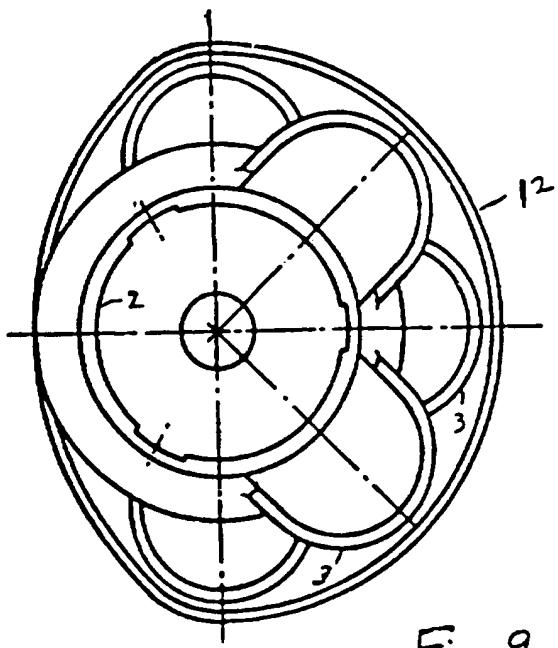


Fig. 9

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